

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1 1. A method for leading a user through a program procedure on a computer, the method  
2 comprising the steps of:

3 a) displaying a window to the user providing information regarding parameters of the  
4 program;

5 b) transferring the user from the window to a parameter input window associated  
6 with one of the parameters selected by the user to be set or changed, wherein the user  
7 provides information in the parameter input window to set or change the value of the  
8 parameter, the parameter input window being the only location where the parameters  
9 need to be set or changed.

1 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein, prior step a), the user is provided with at  
2 least two interaction path options, a first one of the interaction path options being a non-  
3 expert path and a second one of the interaction path options being an expert path.

1 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein  
2 prior to step a), a choice window is displayed to the user, wherein the user is  
3 provided with at least two interaction path options, a first one of the interaction path options  
4 being a non-expert path and a second one of the interaction path options being an expert path;  
5 and

6 further wherein, when the user has selected the non-expert path, the window is an  
7 information window providing information regarding a parameter of the program.

1 4. The method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of:

2 c) displaying another information window providing information regarding  
3 another parameter of the program.

1 5. The method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of:

2 c) repeating steps a) and b) for additional information windows in the non-  
3 expert path, each of the additional information windows providing  
4 information regarding different parameters of the program.

1 6. The method according to claim 4, wherein the step of displaying another information  
2 window comprises returning the user from the parameter input window to the information  
3 window associated with the parameter selected to be set or changed by the user and then  
4 forwarding the user to the another information window.

1 7. The method according to claim 3, wherein, when the user has selected the expert  
2 path, the window is an expert window listing any of the parameters of the program which  
3 may be modified by the user.

1 8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of:

2 c) after the user provides the information in the parameter input window,  
3 returning the user to the expert window.

1 9. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of:

2 c) repeating steps a) and b) for each of the parameters selected by the user from  
3 the expert window when the user has selected the expert path.

1 10. The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

2 c) after step b), transferring the user from the parameter input window to the  
3 information window associated with the parameter, thereby allowing the user  
4 to view the information regarding the parameter; and

5 d) returning the user to the parameter input window.

1 11. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of preventing the user  
2 from selecting to set or change a value of the parameter for at least one of the parameters.

1 12. The method according to claim 1, wherein a parameter must be modified.

1 13. A computer system for leading a user through a program procedure, the system  
2 comprising:

3 a) a workstation, including a display; and

4 b) a program for displaying a window to the user on the display providing  
5 information regarding parameters of the program; and whereupon in response to the  
6 user selecting to set or change a value of one of the parameters, the user is  
7 transferred from the window to a parameter input window associated with the  
8 selected parameter, wherein the user provides information in the parameter input

9 window to set or change the value of the parameter, the parameter input window  
10 being the only location where the parameters need to be set or changed.

1 14. The computer system according to claim 13, wherein prior to displaying the window  
2 to the user, in the program, the user is provided with at least two interaction path options, a  
3 first one of the interaction path options being a non-expert path and a second one of the  
4 interaction path options being an expert path.

1 15. The computer system according to claim 13, wherein  
2 prior to displaying the window to the user, a choice window is displayed to the user  
3 on the display, wherein in the program, the user is provided with at least two interaction path  
4 options, a first one of the interaction path options being a non-expert path and a second one  
5 of the interaction path options being an expert path; and

6 further wherein, when the user has selected the non-expert path, the window is an  
7 information window providing information regarding a parameter of the program.

1 16. The computer system according to claim 15, wherein another information window is  
2 displayed on the display, providing information regarding another parameter of the program.

1 17. The computer system according to claim 15, wherein in the program, the user is  
2 provided with additional information windows in the non-expert path, each of the additional  
3 information windows providing information regarding additional parameters of the program.

1 18. The computer system according to claim 16, wherein in the program, the provision of  
2 the additional information windows is accomplished by returning the user from the parameter  
3 input window to the information window associated with the parameter selected to be set or  
4 changed by the user and then forwarding the user to one of the additional information  
5 windows.

1 19. The computer system according to claim 15, wherein:  
2 in the program, when the user has selected the expert path, the window is an expert  
3 window listing any of the parameters of the program which may be modified by the user.

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1 20. The computer system according to claim 19, wherein, in the program, after the user  
2 provides the information in the parameter input window, the user is returned to the expert  
3 window.

1 21. The computer system according to claim 19, wherein in the program, upon returning  
2 the user to the expert window, the user may select other parameters from the expert window.

1 22. The computer system according to claim 19, wherein in the program, the user is  
2 transferred from the parameter input window to the information window associated with the  
3 parameter, thereby allowing the user to view the information regarding the parameter; and  
4 whereupon, the user is returned to the parameter input window.

1 23. The computer system according to claim 13, wherein the program prevents the user  
2 from selecting to set or change a value of the parameter for at least one of the parameters.

1 24. The computer system according to claim 13, wherein a parameter must be modified.

1 25. A computer program to be performed on or with the aid of a computer system for  
2 leading a user through a program procedure on a computer, the computer program  
3 comprising the steps of:

4 a) displaying a window to the user providing information regarding parameters of the  
5 program;

6 b) transferring the user from the window to a parameter input window associated  
7 with one of the parameters selected by the user to be set or changed, wherein the user  
8 provides information in the parameter input window to set or change the value of the  
9 parameter, the parameter input window being the only location where the parameters  
10 need to be set or changed.

1 26. The computer program according to claim 25, wherein, prior step a), the user is  
2 provided with at least two interaction path options, a first one of the interaction path options  
3 being a non-expert path and a second one of the interaction path options being an expert path.

1 27. The computer program according to claim 25, wherein  
2 prior to step a), a choice window is displayed to the user, wherein the user is  
3 provided with at least two interaction path options, a first one of the interaction path options  
4 being a non-expert path and a second one of the interaction path options being an expert path;

- 5 and  
6 further wherein, when the user has selected the non-expert path, the window is an  
7 information window providing information regarding a parameter of the program.
- 1 28. The computer program according to claim 27, further comprising the step of:  
2 c) displaying another information window providing information regarding  
3 another parameter of the program.
- 1 29. The computer program according to claim 27, further comprising the step of:  
2 c) repeating steps a) and b) for additional information windows in the non-  
3 expert path, each of the additional information windows providing  
4 information regarding different parameters of the program.
- 1 30. The computer program according to claim 28, wherein the step of displaying another  
2 information window comprises returning the user from the parameter input window to the  
3 information window associated with the parameter selected to be set or changed by the user  
4 and then forwarding the user to the another information window.
- 1 31. The computer program according to claim 27, wherein, when the user has selected  
2 the expert path, the window is an expert window listing any of the parameters of the program  
3 which may be modified by the user.
- 1 32. The computer program according to claim 31, further comprising the step of:  
2 c) after the user provides the information in the parameter input window,  
3 returning the user to the expert window.
- 1 33. The computer program according to claim 31, further comprising the step of:  
2 c) repeating steps a) and b) for each of the parameters selected by the user from  
3 the expert window when the user has selected the expert path.
- 1 34. The computer program according to claim 31, further comprising:  
2 c) after step b), transferring the user from the parameter input window to the  
3 information window associated with the parameter, thereby allowing the user  
4 to view the information regarding the parameter; and  
5 d) returning the user to the parameter input window.

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1 35. The computer program according to claim 25, further comprising the step of  
2 preventing the user from selecting to set or change a value of the parameter for at least one of  
3 the parameters.

1 36. The computer program according to claim 25, wherein a parameter must be  
2 modified.

1 37. A computer-readable medium containing a program for performing the method of  
2 leading a user through a program procedure on a computer, comprising the steps of:  
3 a) displaying a window to the user providing information regarding parameters of the  
4 program;  
5 b) transferring the user from the window to a parameter input window associated  
6 with one of the parameters selected by the user to be set or changed, wherein the user  
7 provides information in the parameter input window to set or change the value of the  
8 parameter, the parameter input window being the only location where the parameters  
9 need to be set or changed.

1 38. The computer-readable medium according to claim 37, wherein, prior step a), the  
2 user is provided with at least two interaction path options, a first one of the interaction path  
3 options being a non-expert path and a second one of the interaction path options being an  
4 expert path.

1 39. The computer-readable medium according to claim 37, wherein  
2 prior to step a), a choice window is displayed to the user, wherein the user is  
3 provided with at least two interaction path options, a first one of the interaction path options  
4 being a non-expert path and a second one of the interaction path options being an expert path;  
5 and  
6 further wherein, when the user has selected the non-expert path, the window is an  
7 information window providing information regarding a parameter of the program.

1 40. The computer-readable medium according to claim 39, further comprising the step of:  
2 c) displaying another information window providing information regarding  
3 another parameter of the program.

1 41. The computer-readable medium according to claim 39, further comprising the step

2 of:

- 3 c) repeating steps a) and b) for additional information windows in the non-  
4 expert path, each of the additional information windows providing  
5 information regarding different parameters of the program.

1 42. The computer-readable medium according to claim 40, wherein the step of  
2 displaying another information window comprises returning the user from the parameter  
3 input window to the information window associated with the parameter selected to be set or  
4 changed by the user and then forwarding the user to the another information window.

1 43. The computer-readable medium according to claim 39, wherein, when the user has  
2 selected the expert path, the window is an expert window listing any of the parameters of the  
3 program which may be modified by the user.

1 44. The computer-readable medium according to claim 43, further comprising the step of:

- 2 c) after the user provides the information in the parameter input window,  
3 returning the user to the expert window.

1 45. The computer-readable medium according to claim 43, further comprising the step  
2 of:

- 3 c) repeating steps a) and b) for each of the parameters selected by the user from  
4 the expert window when the user has selected the expert path.

1 46. The computer-readable medium according to claim 43, further comprising:

- 2 c) after step b), transferring the user from the parameter input window to the  
3 information window associated with the parameter, thereby allowing the user  
4 to view the information regarding the parameter; and  
5 d) returning the user to the parameter input window.

1 47. The computer-readable medium according to claim 37, further comprising the step of  
2 preventing the user from selecting to set or change a value of the parameter for at least one of  
3 the parameters.

1 48. The computer-readable medium according to claim 37, wherein a parameter must be  
2 modified.

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